UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/436
9 September 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-sixth session
Item 68 of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 6 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that today, 6 September 1991, the Government of Colombia recognized the Republics of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia as independent States.

On instructions from my Government, I take pleasure in enclosing herewith a copy of the statement by the Government of the Republic of Colombia recognizing the Baltic Republics as independent States, and request you to have the statement circulated, together with this letter, as a document of the General Assembly, under item 68 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Fernando CEPEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/150.

ANNEX

Statement issued on 6 September 1991 by the Government of Colombia

The Government of Colombia has followed closely the process leading to independence for the Baltic Republics, since February 1989, when Estonia and then Lithuania and Latvia embarked on the process of regaining their autonomy and independence, which had been suspended when they were annexed by the Soviet Union.

The changes that have taken place and the process of democratization in the Soviet Union have led to the renewal of the legitimate aspirations of the three Baltic Republics.

Colombia has a tradition of defending the concepts of non-aggression and the peaceful settlement of disputes as principles that are of fundamental importance in consolidating peace and has, accordingly, condemned wars of aggression and the acquisition of territory by military force.

In the light of the decision of the State Council of the Soviet Union recalling the circumstances that gave rise to the annexation of the Baltic States by the Soviet Union, and in accordance with the principles upon which Colombian foreign policy is based, Colombia announces its decision to recognize the Baltic nations as independent States, which will regain their rightful place in the international community.

It is the intention of the Government of Colombia to support the admission of the three Baltic States to membership in the United Nations.

In due course, Colombia will establish contact with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the three States with a view to establishing diplomatic relations.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is being informed of the above decision.